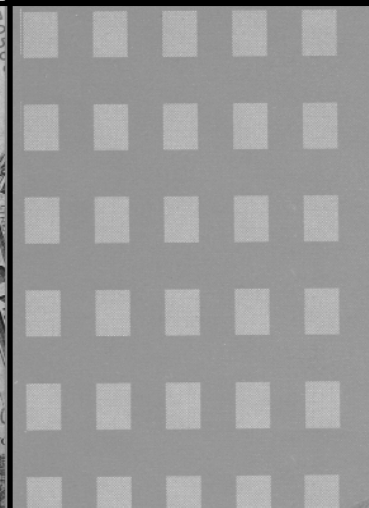
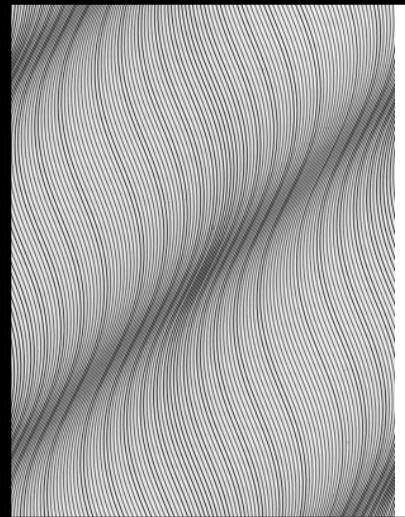
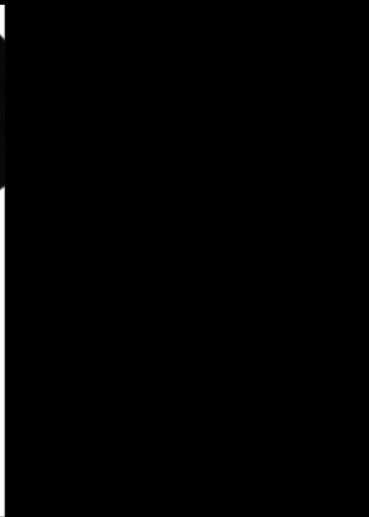
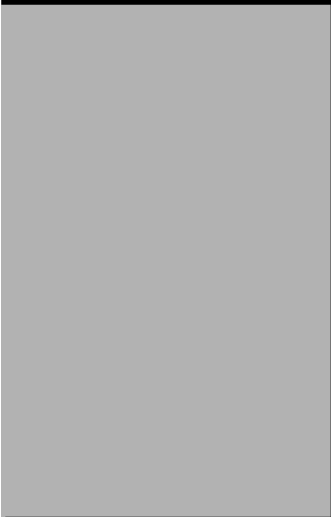
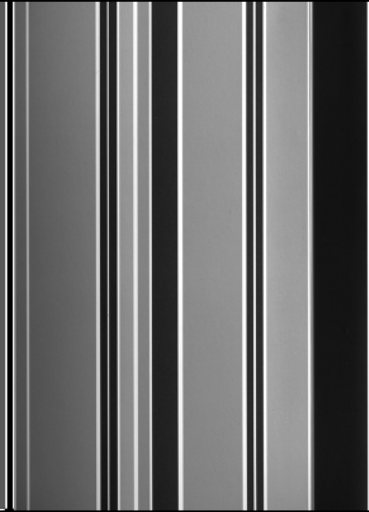



Michigan Rehabilitation Services

An Investment That Works!



People with Disabilities + MRS = Employment

In FY 2006, 7,590 Michigan residents with disabilities found jobs through MRS. The average starting wage for the individuals assisted into employment in FY 2006 was \$11.14 an hour.



**Estimated Total Annual Earnings
of Individuals Assisted into Jobs
in FY 2006:**

\$141,117,256



MRS Mission & Principles

The mission of Michigan Rehabilitation Services (MRS) is to assist individuals with disabilities to achieve employment and self-sufficiency.

Principles of MRS

Customer-Centered
Equity
Advocacy
Collaboration
Accountability
Continuous Improvement

Values of MRS

Integrity
Excellence
Respect
Inclusion
Inner Well-being



Characteristics of Persons Assisted into Jobs in FY2006 by MRS

Physical Disability	27.3%
Mental Disability	18.7%
Learning Disability	16.8%
Hearing Loss	14.6%
Cognitive Disability	12.8%
Drug Abuse	5.8%
Alcohol Abuse	3.1%
Visual Disability	1.0%
Total	100.0%

THE SUCCESSES OF REHABILITATION BENEFIT EVERYONE!

For people with a disability, the benefits are employment and a career ... inclusion in the community ... enhanced self-esteem ... self-sufficiency ... and increased spending power.

For employers, the benefits are qualified workers matched to workplace needs ... post-employment services to ensure employer satisfaction ... dedicated professionals to assist with disability-related issues ... and reduced worker replacement costs.

For the taxpayers of Michigan, the benefits are reduced welfare costs ... reduced costs of institutionalization ... and increased tax revenues.

MCTI

The Michigan Career & Technical Institute (MCTI)

is situated on the shores of Pine Lake in southwestern Barry County, 20 miles northeast of Kalamazoo. This state-operated, residential postsecondary school offers career training programs and a full spectrum of support services for Michigan youths and adults with disabilities. The school can accommodate up to 400 students during each 10-week term, with the length of the training programs varying from one term to two years. The average job placement rate for graduates is 80 percent.

Is one of Michigan's Educational Gems

MCTI Training Programs

Automotive Technology
Cabinetmaking/Millwork
Culinary Arts • Custodial
Electronics Servicing Technology
Grounds Maintenance/Landscaping
Office Automation
Machine Technology
Certified Nursing Assistant
Printing • Retail Marketing

MCTI Support Services

Career Assessment and Planning
Reading and Math Remediation
High School Completion
Nursing and Counseling Services
Occupational Therapy
Interpreter Services for the Deaf
Accommodation Services
Job Placement Services
Barrier-free Campus

MRS VALUES COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS!

Michigan Rehabilitation Services believes that MRS is just part of the “success equation” in assisting people with disabilities into the workforce. MRS has a long tradition of working with partner agencies and organizations to achieve the best possible outcomes for people with disabilities. This is accomplished by focusing on common goals through mutual problem solving, commitment to action, and the sharing of resources.

Three distinct MRS grant programs help to augment collaborative relationships throughout the state:

Community Rehabilitation Program (CRP) grants are awarded each year to establish, develop, or improve community rehabilitation programs and services.

In FY 2006, MRS awarded 23 grants to 19 partner organizations for a total of \$843,429.

Center for Independent Living (CIL) grants are awarded to help maintain a statewide network of independent living centers, plan and develop new centers, and reimburse individuals for the personal assistance they need to enter and maintain employment. In FY 2006, MRS awarded a total of 49 IL/ILC grants to 17 agencies totaling \$5.2 million.

Innovation & Expansion (I & E) grants are awarded for projects that develop or expand innovative approaches to serving persons with disabilities. In FY 2006, MRS did not award any I & E grants.



Agencies Referring Persons with Disabilities to MRS in FY 2006

Public Education	20.2%
Other Sources (family member, church, etc.)	27.7%
Medical Agencies/Physicians	21.0%
Self-Referral	16.3%
Community Rehabilitation Programs	6.3%
Michigan Works! Service Centers	3.7%
Social Security Administration	1.2%
Postsecondary Educational Institutions	2.1%
Department of Human Services	1.5%

Total

100%

Savings in Social Security Benefits

In FY 2006, Michigan Rehabilitation Services assisted 1,516 recipients of Social Security disability benefits into jobs. An annual savings of more than \$20 Million in Social Security costs has been realized because these individuals are now gainfully employed.

MRS Is Dedicated to Serving Youths with Disabilities

MRS has a strong commitment to serving school-age youths with disabilities, ages 16 to 26. Whether in school or out, a young person with any limiting disability may be eligible for assistance to obtain employment. Approximately one-third of MRS's case service budget is dedicated to addressing the needs of young people with disabilities.

MRS works closely with school personnel to make sure students who need employment-related assistance receive the necessary services. MRS counselors help young people discover their interests and talents, learn about different jobs, participate in on-the-job training, apply for college, prepare a resume, and find a job. More than 1,956 youth with disabilities were assisted into careers during FY 2006 by MRS youth counselors.

EMPLOYERS LOOKING FOR QUALIFIED WORKERS CALL ON MRS

In FY 2006, more than 3,000 Michigan employers tapped into the resources of MRS for help with disability-related issues.

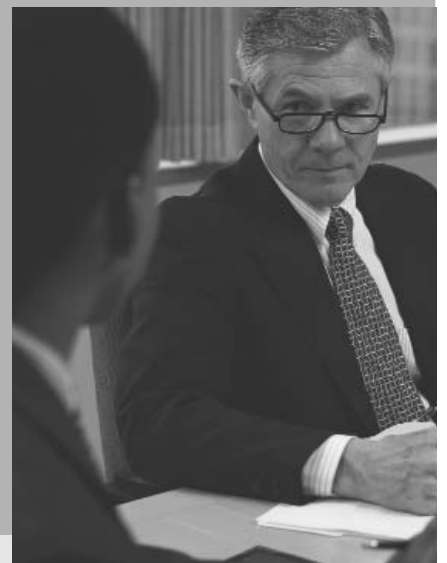
Business services has been redesigned. Four regional representatives have been assigned to develop business-related services in key growth industries.

Services available to employers at no cost:

- Referral of qualified, pre-screened job applicants
- Help with retaining valuable workers through reasonable accommodation recommendations, ergonomic assessments, employee counseling, transferable skill analyses, and referrals to other agencies
- Reimbursement for some of the costs of training new workers referred by MRS
- Help with obtaining disability-related tax credits and deductions
- Information on the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

Businesses with employees who are receiving disability benefits because of illness or injury can work with the MRS Disability Management Program to return these employees to the job. The initial consultation is free. Assistance can include a job analysis to determine if an accommodation will allow return to work, or an analysis of transferable skills to identify other jobs within the company that could be performed within medical restrictions.

A total of 596 Michigan workers with disabilities went back to work in FY 2006 with the help of MRS's Disability Management Program.



SOME INTERESTING FACTS

- Michigan is home to 1.3 million people with disabilities—one in every seven residents.
- The vocational rehabilitation program, which exists in all 50 states, was created by federal legislation in 1920. Michigan Rehabilitation Services currently operates under the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended.
- Michigan Rehabilitation Services employs 269 qualified rehabilitation counselors who work one-on-one with Michiganians with disabilities who want to go to work.
- MRS provides employment services to people with disabilities in all 83 Michigan counties.
- MRS assists individuals with disabilities in preparing for and finding competitive employment as well as in exploring the possibilities of self-employment or owning a small business.
- At any one time, MRS has more than 27,000 active customers.
- The return on investment when MRS assists an individual with a disability into employment is \$11.22 for every one dollar spent, three years after MRS services have been provided. This ratio reflects the increased earned income of the individual, an increase in taxes paid, and a reduction in public supports.
- The average length of time for an individual to receive services and find job placement through MRS in FY 2006 was 18.4 months.
- The MRS budget for purchasing job-related goods and services for Michiganians with disabilities in FY 2006 was \$40,896,700. These dollars were a combination of \$32,619,607 federal funds, \$2,427,600 state funds, and \$5,849,493 local funds.
- To find the MRS office serving your area, call toll-free 1-800-605-6722 (voice) or 1-888-605-6722 (TTY).

E-Mail: MRS-CustomerAssistance@michigan.gov

www.michigan.gov/mrs



**Michigan Rehabilitation Services
Michigan Department of Labor & Economic Growth
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